

Plan for Anytime, Anywhere

If a disaster strikes, will you and your family know what to do? After a disaster, you and your family should be prepared to care for yourselves for three to five days. Emergency responders may be very busy and may not be able to provide immediate care to all who need it. Getting your family ready for anytime, anywhere is easy; just follow these simple steps:

Before a disaster strikes:

- Choose a place for your family to meet after a disaster.
- Choose a person outside the immediate area for family members to contact in case you get separated. This person should live far enough away so they are not involved in the same emergency.
- Assemble a disaster kit that allows you to be self-sustaining for three-five days (See page 8).
- Know where a safe place is in your home. This can be used for hurricanes, tornadoes, or to shelter in place in case of a chemical release.
- Know how to contact your children at their school or day care, and how to pick them up after a disaster. Keep your child's emergency information up to date.
- Prepare a plan and discuss with your family how you should react to all hazards that may affect you. Make sure everyone knows what to do.
- Learn your community's public warning signals, what they sound like, where they come from and what you should do when you hear them.
- Learn first aid and CPR. Have a first aid kit, a first aid manual and extra medicine for family members.
- Learn how to shut off your water, gas and electricity properly. Know where to find shut-off valves and switches.
- Have a small amount of cash available. If the power is out, ATM machines won't work.
- Make copies of your vital records and store them in a safe location. Keep photos and videotapes of your home and valuables.
- Make sure family members know all the possible ways to get out of your home. Keep all exits clear.
- Make sure your plans include taking care of your pets.
- Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio.

During an emergency or disaster:

- Keep calm and take time to think. Give assistance where needed and when it is safe to do so.
- Listen to your radio or television for official information and instructions.
- Use the telephone for emergency calls only.
- If you are ordered to evacuate, take your emergency kit and follow official directions to a safe place or temporary shelter.
- If you are ordered to shelter in place, do so immediately and do not go outside until you are told it is safe.



Five Things to do now Before a Disaster

1 Refer to the hurricane evacuation map found at the fold out at the end of this guide. Locate where you live and your evacuation zone on the map or enter your address online at www.santarosa.fl.gov/GIS. Determine if and when you would have to evacuate. Remember: All mobile home residents are advised to evacuate, regardless of location. **If you need help determining your zone, contact Santa Rosa County Emergency Management BEFORE A STORM THREATENS at (850) 983-5360.**

2 Decide NOW where you would go if ordered to evacuate - a friend or relative's home, a hotel, or as a last resort, a public shelter. **REMEMBER**, if you are going to leave the area or go to a hotel, don't delay. Determine your route, leave early and travel the shortest distance possible. Think tens of miles, not hundreds.

3 Purchase a battery-powered NOAA weather radio and a non-electric landline phone. Even though phone service may not be disturbed, a cordless phone will not work during power outages.

4 Make sure your street address number is clearly marked on your home.

5 Whether you rent or own your home, review your insurance policies with your agent now.